Persuasive Oral Presentation

**SAC Date(s):** Presentations begin Monday 23rd April (you need to be ready by this date!). You will select a date to present based on when you have a free (study) period.

**Task:** ‘Present a sustained and reasoned point of view...that *demonstrates* the persuasive use of language...in oral form.’

**Length:**  Your presentation must go for 5-7 minutes.

**Requirements:**  Must be on a current or ongoing issue.

The research you use to support your contention must be current (within the last 3 years).

***What does the task involve?***

* Pick an issue that you feel passionately about.
* Decide where you stand on the issue – your point of view.
* Research your issue, finding facts, statistics, quotes, etc, to support your point of view.
* Write a 5 minute speech that presents your point of view on your issue.

***What must you do?***

* Show that you have a thorough knowledge of the issue and understand the main arguments around it.
* Develop your argument logically and coherently.
* Substantiate your argument with up-to-date evidence.
* Consider the counter-arguments to your position, state them clearly and indicate why you reject these alternative views.
* Demonstrate your fair-mindedness and the fact that you have thoughtfully researched the issue from several perspectives.

***How to develop a sustained and reasoned point of view:***

1. Research and think carefully about an issue to reach your own informed point of view.
2. State your point of view clearly in a main contention – this states what you are arguing for or against.
3. Collect all the points and arguments for and against your point of view – no matter which side you are supporting.
4. Decide on your strongest points, your reasons and your main arguments.
5. Collect support for your points. This can include evidence, reasons, facts, examples, causes with explanations, anecdotes and so on.
6. Think about how the opposition could attack your points and how you would counter some of these to make your case convincing.
7. Use logically structured arguments so that the listener can see the reasoning, facts and evidence behind the point of view.
8. Resolve the contention so that you have proven its validity.

***Tips:***

* Use lively and engaging opening remarks – perhaps an anecdote to highlight a personal connection to the issue or to emphasise its relevance to your audience.
* Use a mix of persuasive techniques – rhetorical questions and inclusive language are two that work well in speeches but avoiding overusing them.
* Be aware of your audience and involve them if possible, e.g. by asking for a show of hands in response to a question.
* Include some quotes but clearly identify whose words they are and what their point of view is on the issue. You can use the terms ‘quote’ and ‘unquote’ at the beginning and ending of the quotation to let your audience know where the quote begins and ends.
* Present your own point of view rather than adopting a persona – you will find this much easier...

***Possible Topics: (suggestions only – many more are available)***

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***Structuring Your Speech:***

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| --- | --- |
| Introduction | * Introduce the issue/define terms * Provide brief background on the issue * Establish your contention/point of view * Briefly mention your arguments |
| Body paragraph 1 | P – make a point E – explain or elaborate on your point  E – provide evidence (facts, statistics, etc)  L –link paragraph to your contention (validity) |
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| Paragraph 5 – Counter Arguments | * Consider the opposite side of the argument |
| Paragraph 6 – Rebuttal | * Give reasons to show why these arguments aren’t valid/can be refuted |
| Conclusion | * Conclude by summing up your main arguments * Reinforce your main contention |

***Write your speech as an essay first using the structure provided above.***

***Following this, create cue cards for your speech.***

***PRACTISE, PRACTISE, PRACTISE!!!***

***TIME YOUR SPEECH!!!***

***Resources***

THE AGE – ISSUES Overview & Links

<http://education.theage.com.au/cmsarchive.php?intcmspageid=135&linkid=168>

THE AGE – ISSUES ARCHIVE

<http://www.theage.com.au/opinion/issues/>

[**http://www.heraldsun.com.au/opinion**](http://www.heraldsun.com.au/opinion)

**Echo Online – Follow the links from the Gregory Fish Library Homepage**

**Researching your presentation**

INTRO:

P1. P

E

E

L

P2. P

E

E

L

P3. P

E

E

L

Opposite Side:

Rebuttal:

Conclusion: